

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SENIOR COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA, HELD SEPTEMBER 24, 2009 AT THE VERDE VALLEY SENIOR CENTER LOCATED AT 500 E. CHERRY STREET, COTTONWOOD, ARIZONA.

Vice Chairman Bremner called the meeting to order at 4:01 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was as follows:

Commission Members Present

Elaine Bremner, Vice Chairman
Janice Montgomery, Commission Member
Dave Puzas, Commission Member
Jake Gonzales, Commission Member
Max Brown, Commission Member

Commission Members Absent

Council Members Present

Linda Norman

City Staff Present

Marianne Jimenez

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 27, 2009

Commissioner Jake Gonzales moved to approve the minutes, and Commissioner Puzas seconded. Motion carried.

RESIGNATIONS OF CHAIRMAN BETH CARRIGAN AND COMMISSIONER EVELYN COUTURIER.

Vice Chairman Bremner read the letter of resignation from Commissioner Evelyn Couturier. Vice Chairman Bremner stated she had also spoken to Evelyn and informed the Commission members that Evelyn was pursuing some personal goals that made it impossible to attend the meetings. Commissioner Montgomery moved to accept the resignations of Beth Carrigan and Evelyn Couturier. Commissioner Gonzales seconded the motion, and motion carried. Marianne Jimenez stated that she will prepare a certificate to Beth and Evelyn thanking them for their service to the Commission.

Kathy Spangler has expressed a possible interest in serving with the Commission, but was unable to attend the meeting today due to another meeting. Vice Chairman Bremner said she is going to speak to Barbara Lutrel, who works for Verde Valley Care Givers. Marianne Jimenez stated the City of Cottonwood web site has the Commission information and application posted on it. It would be a good idea to post the position at the Senior Center also.

REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS ON THE COMMISSION, AS WELL
AS ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR MEETING AGENDA

Commissioner Gonzales stated he would like to see the requirements revised. After some discussion, it was agreed the Commission should remain at seven (7) voting members, all of whom shall be at least 18 years of age and reside in the Verde Valley. In addition, four of the seven voting members of the commission shall be at least fifty-five years old, and at least two voting members shall be involved in the provision of services to senior citizens. Commissioner Puzas moved to approve these new requirements, and Commissioner Gonzales seconded. Motion carried. Marianne Jimenez stated she would prepare the information for the City of Cottonwood City Council to approve at their October 6th meeting.

The style of the agendas for the Senior Commission meetings was discussed. It was decided the agenda would follow the same format of the City of Cottonwood City Council agendas. The agenda will be prepared in the following order:

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Call to the Public
- Approval of Minutes
- Old Business
- New Business
- Adjournment

DISCUSSION OF PAST EVENTS AND THE OUTCOME OF THOSE EVENTS

The Open House held at the Senior Center on May 8, 2009. The event was held to inform citizens of the existence of the Senior Commission and to get input from them of topics they were concerned about. There were several items listed from the input. Some of them are being addressed by other organizations. One of the concerns was prescription costs. Marianne Jimenez stated she had heard the County was providing cards to help with the costs. Another concern was transportation for individuals who are released from the hospital and have no transportation to return home. Vice Chairman Bremner stated that C.J. Transportation might be able to assist in that area. She said she would also contact the Hospital to see if they provide any transportation.

The Weatherization Workshop was held at the Senior Center on July 14, 2009. The program is provided through NACOG, and Bob Dickey of NACOG in Flagstaff was present to assist individuals in filling out their applications for assistance in weatherizing their homes. There were seven (7) applications submitted and two (2) more near completion following the workshop. It was also stated that the newspaper from Phoenix has had articles about the program there, but no one has heard of anything happening in the Verde Valley. Vice Chairman Bremner said she will make some calls to NACOG.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DECISION ON IDEAS AND OBJECTIVES THE SENIOR COMMISSION SHALL PURSUE (i.e. PRIME TIME FAIR)

There was discussion about waiting until the two positions were filled before the Commission plans any events. Vice Chairman Bremner agreed, but suggested the Commissioners think about what they would like to plan.

UPDATE OF A RESOURCE SPECIALIST

Vice Chairman Bremner reported the one person she had in mind had obtained a full time job. Marianne Jimenez informed the Commissioners she thought there was a program through NACOG that will help pay for a person. She will check into it.

REVIEW OF COMMISSION MEETING DATES AND TIMES

After some discussion, it was agreed that Thursday was a good day for all members, however, it was decided to change the meeting time to 3:30 PM rather than 4:00 PM. Commissioner Gonzales moved to approve, and Commissioner Puzas seconded. Motion carried. There was some discussion about holding the November meeting on the third Thursday, since the fourth Thursday is Thanksgiving.

PROVIDE INPUT ABOUT CURRENT EVENTS OF INTEREST

There was nothing new to add.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Gonzales, and seconded by Commissioner Puzas to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.